

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING TEACHERS IN DISTRICT 22

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor several notable teachers for the American Stars of Teaching award. This award is a recognition for exemplary classroom teachers who are successful in using innovative teaching strategies and raising academic achievement from all their students. To locate such teachers, the Department of Education (DEO) relies on nominations from various members of the community who believe these teachers are truly making a difference. There are five exemplary teachers in Florida's 22nd District that deserve recognition as an American Star of Teaching.

Anne Blankenship is a resident of Palm Beach County. She has taught for twenty years and currently teaches Advanced Placement English to 11th and 12th graders at Jupiter Community High School. For the past four years, she has had a 100 percent pass rate (above national average) for her students. This year, Anne, was also nominated for Palm Beach County's Dwyer Award for Excellence in Education.

Another resident of Palm Beach County is award recipient Cleve Maloon. He teaches Music Theory to students in grades 6th through 8th at Bak Middle School for the Arts. Cleve has been teaching for fourteen years and also directs the school's concert jazz bands. This year he was nominated for Palm Beach County's Dwyer Award for Excellence in Education. Also, in 2003, he was nominated for the Disney Hand Teacher Award which honors creativity in teaching.

Shawn Roney, of Palm Beach County, teaches Physical Education to students in grades K–5th at Grassy Waters Elementary school. Shawn has been teaching for seven years, created his school's Fitness and Wellness Club and coaches intramural team sports. He also integrated reading, writing, science, math and FCAT into his daily lessons. He was nominated for Palm Beach County's Dwyer Award for Excellence in Education this year.

Jasmin Deboo is from Broward County and has been teaching 5th grade at Deerfield Beach Elementary School for 11 years. Jasmin uses a hands-on approach to teaching and embraces the challenges of personalizing education for each student. She was the winner of the Broward County Teacher of the Year Award and was nominated for Florida's Teacher of the Year Award.

Nicole Greggs, a resident of Broward County, teaches music to grades K–5th at Plantation Park Elementary School. She has been a teacher for 14 years. Nicole has developed an updated electronic curriculum planning tool for music educators that aids in meeting grade level expectations for music and in aligning in-

structional focus with other subject areas. She is the founder and Director of MusicMakers! Summer Camp, believing that prolonged study of the Arts increases student achievement. She was nominated for this year's Broward County Teacher of the Year Award.

On behalf of Florida's 22nd District, I wish to congratulate Anne Blankenship, Cleve Maloon, Shawn Roney, Jasmin Deboo and Nicole Greggs for their truly admirable work. Only with the support of enthusiastic and caring teachers can future generations of American students hope to realize their dreams. These five nominees provide a shining example to all of South Florida's teachers.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE HON. JUDGE KMIOTEK OF THE CHEEKTOWAGA TOWN COURT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand here before you and this body to recognize the Honorable Judge Ronald E. Kmiotek, a man who has dedicated 38 years of devoted service protecting the public.

Judge Kmiotek began his life of public service nearly four decades ago by taking a civil service test. He scored high enough to be offered positions with the New York State Police as well as the Border Patrol Service. However, the love he had for his home town of Cheektowaga, New York was too great to accept those positions. As a result he chose to serve with the Cheektowaga Police Department.

For 25 years Judge Kmiotek valiantly served the Town of Cheektowaga as a guardian of the peace; while doing so he ascended to the rank of detective. Following his 25th year of service, he retired from the force or 5 years he expanded his services to the entire County of Erie while working as a Confidential Criminal Investigator for the Erie County District Attorney's Office.

In 1994, Judge Kmiotek truly transcended the boundaries of political parties, when without a single party endorsement he was elected to the town Court of Cheektowaga by an overwhelming majority. The people he so caringly served displayed their gratitude toward the Judge that day. He not only won, but carried the five most prolific party lines in the area.

While on the bench, Judge Kmiotek became widely known for his tough stance on crime. He was elected in a time when the smaller town of Cheektowaga had a higher DWI caseload than did the City of Buffalo. With his work cut out for him, the Judge began the slow and sometimes painstaking process of reforming the town he loved so much. For his efforts, he and his colleagues on the town bench were named the "Toughest Judges in Erie County."

Putting away DWI offenders was not the only thing the Judge has accomplished during his tenure. In 1997, Judge Kmiotek instituted a drug court. At the time it was only the second in the entire country. His court achieved a near 60 percent success rate, as well as seeing 98 percent of the people who successfully completed the program continuing to be sober to this day.

The Drug Court not only helped rehabilitate the narcotics offenders to reemerge into society as productive citizens, but also saved the County nearly \$3 million a year in healthcare costs.

When the Judge wasn't taking time out of his day to meet with the participants in the Drug Court program, or making the streets of Cheektowaga safer to drive on, he was spending time with his adoring family. He and his wife Irene have raised three wonderful children who have given them five equally remarkable grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of the Town of Cheektowaga and all of New York's 27th Congressional District, I extend my sincerest gratitude to the Honorable Ronald Kmiotek for his enduring commitment to making Western New York a safer place to live.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMERICA'S ORCHESTRAS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important artistic contributions and community value of America's 1,800 orchestras.

This country's symphony, chamber, youth, and collegiate orchestras are among our Nation's most important cultural resources, which provide inspiration and enjoyment to more than 30 million individuals annually in cities, towns, and rural areas throughout the United States. They have shown a commitment to reaching all segments of their communities through education and community engagement programs.

In particular, I would like to honor and recognize the Cleveland Youth Orchestra. This orchestra, comprised of musically gifted middle and high school students, provides young people with a rare opportunity to work directly with musicians of the Cleveland Orchestra and conductors to further develop their musical skills. Each year, members of the orchestra perform various concerts throughout the northern Ohio region, helping to enrich our community's artistic experiences. The youth and diversity of the musicians in these programs provide a compelling model of what young musicians of all backgrounds can achieve when they are given such a wonderful opportunity. I can personally attest to the amazing talents of these gifted young musicians. I have

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

several CDs of the orchestras music, which I enjoy very much.

I am pleased to join with a bipartisan coalition of members in co-sponsoring House Concurrent Resolution 157, which recognizes the invaluable contributions orchestras have made to our Nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the wonderful talents brought forth by this country's orchestras, including the amazing young musicians of the Cleveland Youth Orchestra.

DIANA FAIRCHILD AWARDED THE SILENT HERO AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Diana Fairchild, an emergency response communicator in Lewisville, Texas. Ms. Fairchild was recently awarded the Silent Hero Award.

The award, presented by the Commission on State Emergency Communications, CSEC, is presented to an individual who employs exceptional professionalism in the field of emergency communications. Winners of the award must be "solid" dispatchers whom are "always reliable and professional." Diana's supervisors say she "always goes the extra mile." On her own time, Ms. Fairchild has been known to visit a number of individuals in the hospital or rehabilitation, and she has even made gifts for those whom she has helped in emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize this individual for her professionalism and dependency and big heart she brings to her job. Her prestigious Silent Hero Award echoes her commitment and dedication as an emergency dispatcher. I am honored to represent her in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to important constituent casework meetings, I was absent from the House of Representatives for portions of Thursday, June 30, 2005. Should I have been in attendance, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall 346, "no"; rollcall 356, "no."

HONORING THE 2005 CONGRESSIONAL GOLD AWARD MEDAL WINNERS

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 13 winners of the Congressional Gold Award from the 22nd District of Florida. Each award winner has spent at least 2 years completing over 400 hours of community serv-

ice, half of which is spent in personal development and physical fitness activities, including a four-night expedition.

Ms. Alexandra Brady of Palm Beach Gardens has dedicated her time fundraising for two different cancer groups. One is her local Cancer Society, while the other is the "Comfort Bag Project," a program that brings goody bags to young victims of cancer at St. Mary's Children's Hospital. In addition to these notable achievements, Alexandra has spent the last 4 years teaching in a local children's camp.

Ms. Carolyn Cox of Palm Beach Gardens volunteers at the Jupiter Medical Center where she assists the hospital staff. Additionally, Carolyn has dedicated her free time to working on fundraisers to provide medical services for less privileged individuals. Her quest for personal development led her to Costa Rica for a 10-day trip in which she learned about the history and culture of the Pacific Coast area.

Mr. Patrick Eucalitto of Palm Beach Gardens has volunteered with several national health organizations. Most notably, Patrick co-founded the Relay for Life Youth Council for the local American Cancer Society. In a pursuit to understand different cultures, Patrick has developed a fluent understanding of both Spanish and French. Additionally, Patrick has logged over 850 hours of training and racing time in competitive swimming.

Ms. Regen Foley of Palm Beach Gardens has proven herself as a born leader through her efforts as the founder and coordinator of the "Comfort Bag Project" at St. Mary's Children's Hospital. Furthermore, Regen spent time abroad in the Czech Republic, gaining an appreciation for the Czech culture while at the same time receiving a new understanding of her own national identity. Regen has also put in over 300 hours as a starter for her school's JV basketball team.

Ms. Elizabeth Folmar of Palm Beach Gardens has been involved with the Safe Harbor Rescue League, a shelter for mistreated dogs and cats, for the last 5 years. Additionally, Elizabeth volunteers at her local youth court serving as a lawyer. During her free time, Elizabeth has developed her nautical skills, navigating and skipping sailboats. This personal development activity has led her to plan a trip to the Outer Abaco islands of the Bahamas on her family sailboat.

Ms. Courtney Kneip of Palm Beach Gardens spends her time after school volunteering for a local kindergarten teacher. Courtney has participated in several community fundraisers for medical research. Pursuing her love of music, Courtney achieved a superior rating at Solo and Ensemble for her flute performance of Sonata Number 5. Courtney has spent time in French Canada where she immersed herself in the language and culture.

Mr. Kyle Lambrecht of Jupiter volunteers at his local Center for Information and Crisis Services and participates in a program that performs community outreach to the elderly. In addition, Kyle has auditioned for the All-State and Jazz Bands, performing both percussion and piano. Kyle is on both the varsity golf and tennis teams at his high school and he hopes to improve his skills in order to become one of the highest rated players.

Ms. Robin Lucas of Palm Beach Gardens serves as a mentor for the Big Brother/Big Sister Program. Robin has spent her free time

organizing and participating on a fundraising committee benefiting the Headstart Preschool. Robin has studied piano and taken weekly tennis lessons in order to advance to the upper intermediate level. Furthermore, Robin spent part of her time abroad, living with a local family in Mexico, learning Spanish and gaining an understanding of Mexican history and culture.

Ms. Kerry O'Neil of Jupiter volunteered for her high school's Academy of Finance, tutoring her fellow students in mathematics and finance. Kerry also spends her time working in the school yearbook office. Additionally, she competes in both lacrosse and swimming, earning Junior Olympic-level times in the 50- and 100-meter freestyle event. Kerry also planned a 10-day exploration to Italy where she learned about Italian culture.

Mr. Matthew Puchferran of Boca Raton coordinated the Nation's largest youth-led National Day of Prayer Teen Freedom Rally in 2004. Matthew organized over 1,600 teens and their families in order to hold prayer for the Nation's soldiers and leaders. In his spare time, Matthew has mastered the keyboard, leading his youth group worship band. He has competed on his high school soccer team for the past 4 years, and attended weekend campouts with the Boy Scouts of America. Additionally, Matthew spent time in Juarez, Mexico serving children, and helped a Boys and Girls Club on a North Carolina Cherokee Indian Reservation.

Mr. Sean Smith of Palm Beach Gardens volunteered for Better Health, a health awareness group. Sean also served as chairperson for the Health Action Council, which is designed to promote youth volunteering. Sean spends his free time mastering the guitar as well as competing on his school's basketball team. Additionally, he has explored the Western United States, viewing several of our Nation's natural treasures such as the Grand Canyon and Lake Mead.

Ms. Alexandra Trimper of Jupiter has volunteered for Jupiter Head Start where she organized a Christmas project for young children. Alexandra also plays the flute and competes on her high school tennis team where she advanced to the Florida State Championships.

Ms. Christine Vartan of Jupiter volunteered her time teaching the elderly how to use computers. Christine took ballroom dancing lessons, and is a self-taught member of her school's golf team. In an expedition to enhance her understanding of our Nation's history, she visited St. Augustine, Florida and Savannah, GA, learning about the famous River Street and its historical significance.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF GERALD R. PIGEON

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Mr. Gerald R. Pigeon, a resident of Western New York who dedicated his life to his country, his community and his family—a life cut short by a tragic accident on July 9, 2005.

A Buffalo, New York native, Mr. Pigeon was born on July 18, 1936 and as a young man attended South Park High School, where he graduated in 1954.

In 1956, Mr. Pigeon left Western New York on a mission to serve this great Nation. For the next 6 years he was trained as an air traffic controller in the United States Air Force. Following an honorable discharge, Mr. Pigeon used the skills he learned in the military to earn a living in St. Louis and Chicago.

After starting a family with his wife, Barbara, in 1972 Mr. Pigeon decided to come back to his hometown and raise his children in the Town of West Seneca, a suburb of Buffalo.

Upon returning Mr. Pigeon earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo, after which he devoted his energy as a public servant in the Town of West Seneca Department of Building and Grounds, where he worked for the next 24 years.

In addition to his commitment to his job, Mr. Pigeon was enthusiastically involved in his community as a coach and referee for the West Seneca Youth Hockey Organization, a member of the Father Baker Council, Knights of Columbus, a fourth-degree member of Father John Schaus Council 4652 Knights of Columbus and a parishioner of Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

Mr. Pigeon passed down his love for public service to his children including his son Steven who earned a law degree, was elected by the residents of Erie County's 9th District to serve in the Erie County Legislature and led the County's Democratic Party as Chairman of the Erie County Democratic Committee.

In addition to leaving behind a legacy of service to this community, Mr. Pigeon leaves behind a loving family including his wife of 48 years, two daughters, one son, four siblings, eleven grandchildren and step-grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Thank you Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to recognize Mr. Gerald R. Pigeon, a man whose spirit and involvement has made a lasting mark on the Western New York Community.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. BARBARA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the parish community of St. Barbara Roman Catholic Church, as members and leaders celebrate 100 years of faith and hope throughout Cleveland's southwest side. Throughout the past century, St. Barbara's Parish has served as a spiritual refuge, opening its doors to individuals and families in search of guidance and peace.

The ministry of St. Barbara's began in 1905, serving Polish immigrant families who settled near Henninger and Denison Roads. Father Albert Migdalski was appointed as the first pastor. Pastor Migdalski and a small yet dedicated group of parishioners led the effort to construct St. Barbara's first permanent home. On Christmas Day in 1907, Pastor Migdalski celebrated the first mass at the new church building, constructed on the corner of Valley Road and Elston Avenue. A church hall and

pastoral residence were also built on the grounds.

Since that time, a number of pastors and parishioners have served as critical guides in the journey of the faithful at St. Barbara's Church. Over the years, the parish community of St. Barbara's has evolved and grown, and has also survived numerous struggles and hardships. Tragedy struck St. Barbara's in 1916, when a fire completely destroyed the church. Eventually, because of its committed members and leaders, St. Barbara's Church and School were built near West 15th and Denison Avenue. The school operated for more than 40 years, until financial struggles forced its closure in 1969.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every past and current member and spiritual leader of St. Barbara's Church. Despite hardship and adversity, St. Barbara's parish continues to provide a haven of faith, guidance, renewal and support for more than 350 families, along Cleveland's southwest side and far beyond.

HONORING RAYMOND DUNNING, JR.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and commitment of Raymond Dunning Jr. Mr. Dunning has served his community in a variety of capacities his entire life, and I would like to take the opportunity to recognize this man's life on the eve of his retirement.

Throughout his life, Mr. Dunning has been selfless, starting with his commitment to excellence in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program during his college years at Sam Houston State. During his time there, he won numerous awards for achievement, culminating his senior year, where he served as ROTC commander and then was selected from thousands of applicants to receive a Regular Army Commission of Second Lieutenant upon graduation in 1964. While serving in Vietnam, he rose to the rank of Captain, was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" Device in May of 68, and then in August of 68 he received a Bronze Star with First Oak Leaf Cluster.

Since his discharge from the army, Mr. Dunning has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of those around him, both through his professional career and in his spare time. He worked with a hospital management company which helped troubled hospitals get back on their feet. Since moving to Lewisville, in his capacity as President and CEO of the hospital system, Mr. Dunning has worked hard to improve the local health care system by helping to expand the hospital system and also by improving the standard of care. The hospital has more than doubled its bed capacity and added a new ICU and a cardiovascular line.

Many men would be happy with those professional accomplishments, but it is what Mr. Dunning has done in his spare time that resulted in him being named Lewisville's Citizen

of the year in 1994. He has served on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, participated in committees dedicated to improving the local police and school systems, and volunteered to be the director of the local United Way. This is just a short list of the many hats he has worn to help the Lewisville area grow and flourish.

It is with great honor I stand here today to recognize a man who has touched so many people on a personal level and asked nothing in return.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my family, I was absent from the House of Representatives on Friday, June 24, 2005. Should I have been in attendance, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall 310: no.
Rollcall 312: aye.
Rollcall 314: no.
Rollcall 318: no.
Rollcall 321: aye.

MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR VETERANS MEDICAL SERVICES

SPEECH OF

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3130 because it provides much needed medical care funding for our Nation's veterans.

As we approach our Nation's 229th birthday, we reflect upon what has kept the United States as a free and sovereign Nation—it is our veterans, who have fought to protect the freedoms we cherish every day.

The passage of H.R. 3130 is critical, as it provides nearly \$1 billion in emergency funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs to continue treating veterans' health care needs. We made a promise to our veterans to provide them with health care when they made a promise to our Nation to defend us from evils around the world.

Since 1995, Congress has doubled the spending for each veteran. In just the last five years, Congress has increased spending on veterans health care by \$10 billion—and this is not counting the additional funding, nearly \$1 billion, in H.R. 3130.

H.R. 3130 solidifies the fact that the House of Representatives stands committed to ensuring that the needs of our Nation's veterans are met.

I urge all my colleagues to vote in favor of this very important legislation. I continue to hold all armed forces veterans in the highest regard and pray for the safety of those currently serving in the armed forces around the world.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, FINANCIAL
SERVICES PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 27, 2005

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong support for H.R. 458, the Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act. This legislation protects the men and women of our armed forces from predatory lenders that target service members.

There are a number of companies known as "military lenders" that offer our troops ill-advised and costly products, such as loans with exorbitant rates and hidden fees. They often cluster around military installations and aggressively target service members and their families, who are uniquely vulnerable to these abusive marketing and collection practices. As an example, the zip code 76903 of San Angelo in my Congressional District borders Goodfellow Air Force Base and has 11 banks and eight payday lenders.

Unfortunately, a large number of our young troops have limited experience dealing with financial matters and many fall victim to abusive lending practices. Additionally, they often have relatively low incomes which may lead them to borrow in order to pay current expenses and debts. This is especially troubling in a time when we are experiencing extended troop deployments and families at home are struggling to make ends meet while the service member is deployed. The problem has become so pervasive that the Pentagon has launched a new effort aimed at educating our troops and warning them about the dangers of abusive military lenders.

Not only do these predatory lending practices affect the financial well-being of the men and women of our armed services, but it also threatens the operational readiness of our military. The last thing we need is for service members who are putting their lives on the line for our nation to be overwhelmed with financial stresses back home.

H.R. 458 addresses this problem by imposing certain restrictions on various types of specialty lenders that target service members. Additionally, it protects the interests of service members by requiring additional disclosures with regard to these types of loans. H.R. 458 is responsible legislation that protects the rights of the men and women of our military while still affording them options with regard to their finances.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the House of Representatives for passing this legislation and addressing an issue that is vitally important to our nation's dedicated troops.

RECOGNIZING AN ENVIRON-
MENTAL MILESTONE AT SMITH-
FIELD FOODS**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend publicly Smithfield Foods and its many employees, an important corporate citizen from my district in Southeastern Virginia.

Smithfield has long been known throughout the United States as the leading producer of pork and other outstanding meat products. This spring, Smithfield Foods earned another important distinction. It was certified by the International Standards Organization (ISO) in Geneva, Switzerland as having met or exceeded the ISO's high standards for environmental management. It has achieved its aggressive goal of ISO 14001 certification for all Environmental Management Systems, EMSs, in its U.S.-based hog production, and all its U.S. pork and beef processing facilities, except recent acquisitions.

Smithfield is the first domestic processor of meat to earn certification under the ISO 14001 Standard—that is the gold standard for environmental stewardship not just in the United States but across the globe. To obtain ISO certification for its environmental practices, a company must meet a rigorous and comprehensive set of standards developed by more than 2,000 experts worldwide. It is a distinction that is a credit to Smithfield's leadership, and to its entire workforce.

This was not the first milestone that Smithfield has achieved for its stewardship of our natural resources. Last month, our Commonwealth's Department of Environmental Quality, DEQ, awarded eight Smithfield Foods facilities with its Virginia Environmental Excellence Program designations. Six Smithfield facilities received Exemplary Environmental Enterprise, E3, status, and two others achieved Environmental Enterprise, E2, Status.

As our State's Secretary of Natural Resources said in making these awards: "Smithfield Foods has made superior environmental performance a management priority. This E3 designation shows that the company has made significant improvements in the management of its facilities in order to protect Virginia's environment." Smithfield has received other awards from states and communities all across our great country.

Mr. Speaker, what is particularly significant about these milestones is that they have been achieved less than 10 years after Smithfield Foods received a large civil fine under the Clean Water Act for discharges into the Pagan River in Virginia.

So what did Smithfield do? In response to those events and others, Smithfield embraced what one executive recently described as a "culture shift" in its approach to environmental issues. Smithfield has embraced the simple idea that protecting the environment is not just the right thing to do, but smart business as well. And because Smithfield Foods has embraced environmental stewardship throughout the company, in many cases going beyond what is required by our laws, my district and many other parts of the United States are better places to live and work.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Smithfield Foods on its environmental turnaround and the recent recognition it has received for that progress in my district and across the country. I am confident that Smithfield will stay on this course in the years ahead.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2006

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3057) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of international wildlife conservation efforts and the Global Environmental Facility, GEF.

Protecting and preserving our environment is one of the most important duties I have as a Member of Congress. We simply won't have a world to live in if we continue our neglectful ways.

I support maximizing the GEF's resources, leveraging the highest possible contributions from the other donor countries, and demonstrating U.S. leadership on international environmental issues.

The GEF is the primary financing mechanism for important environmental work around the world, helping developing countries address the many environmental challenges associated with ending poverty and enhancing economic development. Since its establishment in 1991, the GEF has provided \$5 billion in grants, leveraged \$16 billion in co-financing for projects in 140 countries around the world, and has provided more than 4,000 grants directly to community groups and non-governmental organizations. The U.S. has provided close to \$1 billion to the GEF over this same time frame.

Because other countries' contributions are indexed to the United States' level of support, we have the ability to either gather great resources for the global environment or greatly limit the international response to issues such as tropical forest loss and the decline in coral reefs worldwide.

Funding the GEF is a good investment. Choosing to make the highest commitment to the GEF will truly help define American leadership on environmental issues to the rest of the world.

REMEMBERING BOUNCER SENA

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay homage to John "Bouncer" Sena who passed away on June 26, 2005 at the age of 77. A mentor, friend and family man, he leaves behind relatives who loved him, friends who admired him, students who respected him and a city that mourns him.

At age eleven, John was told that he looked like a "bouncer" and the nickname stuck with him the rest of his life. As a sophomore, Bouncer Sena was a tackle on the Santa Fe

High School football team that won the state championship in 1943. He graduated from the College of Santa Fe in 1951 with a degree in business administration but devoted his life to education.

Married to Bernadette Ortiz in 1958, Bouncer Sena was the father of one son and three daughters who gave him six grandchildren. Bouncer was a family man, proud of his Spanish heritage. He loved the annual traditions of Fiesta de Santa Fe and the Procession.

Bouncer Sena was the vice principal for 25 of the 33 years he was employed by Santa Fe High School. During his years at the school he coached the sophomore basketball team and is also credited with creating the Career Day program. He was well-liked and respected by the students, their parents and his co-workers at the school.

Political aspirations led Bouncer Sena to seek and win two terms on the Santa Fe County Commission. While serving on the Commission, he was instrumental in the creation of the Santa Fe Water Board. He was named Chairman of the Santa Fe County Commission in 1978.

Mr. Speaker, in 1990, Bouncer Sena was named a "Living Treasure of Santa Fe," undoubtedly for his dedication and good works in the community. Many people were touched by his kindness over the years. Bouncer Sena was truly a unique individual who will be greatly missed but never forgotten.

HONORING FRANK T. MAZIARSKI,
CRNA, MS, CLNC PRESIDENT OF
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
NURSE ANESTHETISTS

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an outstanding representative from the 1st District of the great State of Washington, Frank Maziarski, CRNA, MS, CLNC. Mr. Maziarski will soon complete his year as national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). I am very pleased that this son of Washington was tapped as the 2004–2005 president of this prestigious national organization, and I am honored to count him as one of my constituents.

The AANA is the professional organization that represents more than 33,000 practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Founded in 1931, the AANA is the professional association representing CRNAs nationwide. As you may know, CRNAs are anesthesia professionals who administer approximately 65 percent of all anesthetics given to patients each year in the United States. They work in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered including hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms, ambulatory surgical centers, and the offices of dentists, podiatrists, and plastic surgeons.

CRNAs provide anesthesia for all types of surgical cases and, in some states, are the sole anesthesia providers in approximately 70 percent of all rural hospitals, affording these medical facilities obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization services.

Mr. Maziarski earned his Master of Science (MS) degree and his Bachelors of Science degree in nursing (BSN) from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He was educated in the art and science of Nurse Anesthesia at the Albany Medical Center, School of Nurse Anesthesia, Albany, NY. He spent 21 years as an officer in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, first as an anesthesia provider and then as an educator in the Academy of Health Sciences Schools of Nurse Anesthesia and was a Director of the Phase I (clinical) and also a Director of Phase II (academic) portions of the Nurse Anesthesia programs. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel at Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso, Texas. He also spent one year as Chief Nurse Anesthetist of the 93rd Evac. Hospital, in Long Binh, Viet Nam during July, 1968–July, 1969. He is currently a practicing nurse anesthetist and owner of Allied Anesthesia Associates, which provides anesthesia services in and around the Shoreline, Washington area, in my congressional district.

Mr. Maziarski has held various leadership positions in the AANA as President-Elect, Vice-President, and Regional Director before becoming the National President of the AANA in 2004. In addition, Frank has served terms as President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Treasurer, and as a Member of the Board of Directors for the Washington Association of Nurse Anesthetists (WANA). He was also appointed by Governor Gary Locke to the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission from 1997–2004 and was elected as its chair twice during his tenure.

Adding to his professional accomplishments, Mr. Maziarski has been recognized for both publishing and speaking on anesthesia-related topics over the years. He has taken his experience and knowledge from the workplace and AANA leadership roles to lecture on political and academic anesthesia related topics before different professional groups. During his AANA Presidency, Mr. Maziarski has played important roles in advocating for the practice of nurse anesthesia and its patients before Medicare and other Federal agencies, promoted anesthesia patient safety through vigorous participation in the interdisciplinary National Quality Forum (NQF), and advanced principles of wellness among practitioners in this high-stress profession. In addition, Mr. Maziarski directed that the AANA be represented before three key subcommittees of this Congress, in which members of this organization testified about the importance of nurse anesthesia education, the roles and contributions of CRNAs in the Veterans' Affairs health system, and the dedication with which CRNAs have provided safe anesthesia care to members of the U.S. Armed Forces at home and abroad.

It is my understanding that under Mr. Maziarski's leadership, the AANA continued to foster an important line of communication with the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). While these organizations of anesthesia professionals have not always seen eye-to-eye, both the AANA and ASA are working to ensure the safe administration of powerful anesthesia drugs, and have shared interest in patients' safe access to anesthesia care with respect to Medicare regulations governing locked anesthesia carts. These two societies' professional working relationship may not have been possible without the continued ini-

tiative of AANA President Maziarski and his ASA counterpart.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Mr. Frank Maziarski, CRNA, MS, CLNC, for his notable career and outstanding achievements.

TRIBUTE TO ELISSA
GIAMBASTIANI

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elissa Giambastiani who is retiring after 18 years as President and CEO of the San Rafael, California, Chamber of Commerce. Under Elissa's dynamic leadership, the Chamber has successfully promoted not only the immediate needs of local businesses but also the long-term economic interests of the community.

As an advocate for workforce housing and transportation infrastructure improvements, Elissa has been in the forefront of efforts to establish a housing trust and to pass a transportation sales tax. Her expertise is widely recognized, and she was recently invited to speak at a National Workforce Housing summit in Arlington, Virginia, on "Fostering Community Acceptance of Affordable and Workforce Housing."

Born and raised in Minnesota, Elissa worked there as a teacher before taking a job with the Army teaching in Europe. After her return, she moved to San Francisco where she worked in an architect's office and met her husband Ron Giambastiani who worked in the same office and lived in San Rafael. She also worked as public relations consultant before joining the Chamber in 1987.

As President, Elissa developed and implemented the overall program for an organization with over 950 members. She also took the lead in tracking and advocating the business viewpoint on legislation, including an instrumental role in the formation of the Alliance of North Bay Chambers to increase clout. This function lead to the San Rafael Chamber earning an Advocacy Chamber of the Year Award, one of the first winners in this category which was created by the California Chamber of Commerce in 2003.

Elissa has also won an award from Western Association of Chamber Executives for management excellence and an Accredited Chamber Executive designation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Locally, she is a member of the League of Women Voters, the Ecumenical Association for Housing, and the San Rafael Rotary.

Mr. Speaker, "tenacious" and "tireless" are appropriate words frequently used to describe Elissa Giambastiani. I would add "clear-sighted, passionate, and caring," all adjectives which do justice to her effectiveness as a leader in of the San Rafael community. I wish her luck in her new pursuits of piano playing, Japanese flower arranging, Italian study, public relations consulting as well as grandmothering.

TRIBUTE TO MR. S. WARD
CASSCELLS III

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. S. Ward Casscells III of Houston, Texas upon his commission as a lieutenant colonel in the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps.

In accepting this commission, Lt. Colonel Casscells becomes one of the brave souls to serve not only as our Nation's defender, but also as our ambassador of freedom throughout the world.

Serving in the United States military is a great gift of self and an act of the truest patriotism.

Through his service, Lt. Colonel Casscells has displayed his patriotism and great love for his Nation, while proving his commitment and dedication to the cause of freedom.

This admirable man brings great honor to himself, his family, and his community in joining the United States Army Reserve and proving his loyalty to family and his commitment to country.

He is truly a shining example to his peers and, indeed, to all the citizens of the United States of America.

I again congratulate S. Ward Casscells III on joining the United States Army Reserve, and I wish him well in his heroic endeavors.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 3010) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to say that I will be voting for H.R. 3010, the fiscal year 2006 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill with the hope that funding levels in the bill will be increased during conference negotiations with the Senate. While I support many of the funding provisions in this legislation, I also believe that this bill shortchanges important needs in education and health care.

I am deeply alarmed that this funding plan not only continues to break the funding promise of the No Child Left Behind Act, NCLB, but it actually takes a step backwards. Under this bill, NCLB funding would fall \$13.2 billion short of what was promised when the law was passed, translating to a 3.3 percent decrease from 2005. I am convinced that this law's success will depend in part on the investment made in this effort.

Not only does this bill fall short on critical funding for education, it also makes damaging

cuts to rural health assistance. As co-chair of the Rural Health Care Coalition, I am disturbed by two damaging cuts that would compromise access to quality care in rural areas. The legislation eliminates funding for Rural Health Research Center grant programs that analyze how federal policies impact rural providers. In addition, the measure cuts funding for Rural Health Outreach grants by over 70 percent. Outreach grants are used to develop innovative approaches to health problems that are specific to rural communities. If these cuts are retained in conference, 146 rural communities will be forced to abandon their current outreach projects. I urge the Senate to provide full funding to these critical rural programs, and I intend to actively support the restoration of these funds in conference.

This bill does include many provisions that I applaud. I was pleased that the Rural Education Achievement Program once again received funding to help rural districts manage the No Child Left Behind Act's new accountability requirements, but I strongly believe this program merits an increase in funding. I was also pleased that this bill maintains funding for rural hospital flexibility grants and small hospital improvement grants.

Ultimately, I cast my vote in favor of this legislation in order to ensure that the appropriations process could move forward. I remain hopeful that the Senate will include higher funding levels for these programs and that we can work on a bipartisan basis to develop a fiscally responsible funding plan that provides adequate resources to strengthen our schools, address our public health needs, and support our Nation's workers.

MILITARY PERSONNEL FINANCIAL
SERVICES PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 27, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of Title II in my legislation, H.R. 458. Title II regulates so-called "military lenders," and provides significant safeguards to protect our armed services personnel from abusive consumer credit lending and collection practices.

A number of lenders target military personnel. While most lenders treat their customers fairly, some of these creditors engage in deceptive sales and marketing practices and employ coercive debt collection practices. I know about companies like Pioneer Financial that engage in predatory lending with high rates and hidden fees and frequently renege loans to generate more fees for the lender while providing little or no benefit to the service member.

Like many others, I myself, Mr. Speaker, while a young officer in the military, was misled into thinking that the military was endorsing these types of lenders and loan products. I also know that in some instances, lenders go as far to garnish military personnel's wages or require them to agree to have their loan repaid through the allotment system.

Predatory lenders have contacted or threatened to contact the borrower's commanding officer or others in the borrower's chain of

command in order to collect debt. Furthermore, some lenders have required borrowers to sign documents as a condition of obtaining the loan that purportedly waive their legal rights, including the requirement that the borrower submit to mandatory arbitration of any dispute instead of being able to institute a legal action.

Title II in H.R. 458 recognizes that many military personnel do not understand or appreciate their borrowing options or rights or what can happen if they do not carefully manage their finances after taking out a loan to pay off or consolidate old debts. Accordingly, under Title II, prior to the consummation of a loan transaction, military lenders also would be required to provide detailed disclosures.

Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress, each of the Members who serve on both the House Armed Services and Financial Services Committees expressed concerns about these types of lenders, including predatory lenders and some payday lenders, taking advantage of members of our armed forces.

As the newest Member to serve on both committees, I endorsed my colleagues' views by adding these special protections for military borrowers in Title II of H.R. 458, to ensure that all high interest lenders comply with essential safeguards that protect our men and women in the armed forces.

RECOGNIZING DAVID CRAWFORD
OF NAPA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Crawford of Napa, California as he steps down from the Napa City Council after 8 years of service.

David was first elected to the Napa City Council in 1982. After a 4-year break he decided to run for office again and was elected to his second term in 2000. As a councilmember, he helped restore and rejuvenate historic downtown Napa.

Mr. Speaker, David also acted as the mayor of Napa for 6 months in 1988 after Mayor Bob Pelusi passed away.

A dedicated and professional man, David continued working as a full time physician during his 8 years on the Napa City Council. He continues his practice full time at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Vallejo, CA.

Mr. Speaker, David is also very active with the First Christian Church of Napa, California where he has served for 10 years as the mission chairman.

David graduated with a bachelor of arts from the University of California, David earned his medical doctorate at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Born in Palo Alto, California, David and his wife Christine reside in Napa, California. They have three daughters.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we recognize and thank David Crawford for his dedication to our community. Please join me in wishing him the best in all his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ERLING HORN
IN CELEBRATION OF HIS 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Erling Horn, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on July 17, 2005.

Mr. Horn, the father of Lafayette Past Mayor Erling Horn, begins his centennial year as an active, independent member of his community who can be seen driving his Jeep to church activities or to meetings of the City of Oakland Retirement Board, where he has served for the past 12 years.

Born in 1905, Erling Horn was orphaned as an infant and raised by his mother's siblings in a large extended Norwegian family in Seattle. With their help and the support of the scholarship program of the Reserve Officer Training Corps, he earned a Bachelors Degree and a Masters Degree in electrical engineering at the University of Washington. In 1927, he earned a commission in the U.S. Army, where he served as Captain and Major in various coast and field artillery units during World War II.

From 1931 to 1935, he served in the Civilian Conservation Corps; and from 1935 to 1966, he was employed by the City of Oakland, first as City Surveyor, and then as Traffic Engineer. In his 30-year career with the City, he helped to design and install Oakland's first parking meters, traffic control signals, traffic-friendly intersections, and freeway interfaces.

During the Vietnam War, Mr. Horn was an active antiwar protestor, always supporting the troops but not always supporting his government's policies to deploy them. His oldest son served in the U.S. Navy during the War.

As one who benefited from family solidarity early in life, Erling Horn has been a source of family strength to his wife, now deceased, to his three children, Arthur, Erling, and Margaret, and to his seven grandchildren. I am pleased to join his family and friends in congratulating Mr. Horn on his career achievements, service to his country, and community contributions. I wish him continued health, happiness, and success as he enters his second hundred years.

**TRIBUTE TO THE SLOVAK
CATHOLIC SOKOL**

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to take this opportunity to salute the Slovak Catholic Sokol. On Saturday, July 9, 2005 the Sokol celebrated a very proud moment, its Centennial Anniversary.

It is only fitting that the Slovak Catholic Sokol be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on Earth, for it has been a fundamental institution in the community; offering guidance and support to all in need.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol was founded on July 4, 1905 by citizens who wanted to establish an athletic organization for Catholics of

Slovak ancestry. It was not long after its creation that the group began to flourish. The year 1912 marked the first field meet or "Slet," as it is called in Slovak. Since then, these Slets have attracted members and crowds by the thousands; all of whom gather to take part in an array of track and field events.

The organization grew quickly; the 46 original founders from Passaic, N.J. has blossomed into 32,000 members located throughout the United States & Canada. This unprecedented expansion has allowed the group to become heavily involved with the youth movement. Every year, the Slovak Catholic Sokol awards an array of scholarship grants to college bound members as well as qualified members who attend Catholic High School. Over the years, nearly 1300 members have been fortunate enough to receive scholarship grants in order to further their education.

In the most recent years, the Slovak Catholic Sokol entered its most ambitious stage of growth, especially in terms of volunteer work. As a Catholic entity, participation in parish life is obviously encouraged and support for both men and women of Slovak heritage is given. Therefore, donations whether monetary or perishable, are routinely sent to Catholic Bishops in Slovakia for distribution amongst their congregation. Working in conjunction with other reputable Slovak organizations, such as the Slovak League of America is also quite commonplace. In fact, together with four other fraternal, the Slovak Catholic Sokol established the Slovak Foundation at the University of Pittsburgh.

Committed to the democratic way of life, the Slovak Catholic Sokol will continue to spread goodwill. The leadership and the members of this organization recognize the dedication it took to elevate this venerable institution to where it is today and will ensure that it remains untarnished.

The work of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing institutions like the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the City of Passaic, Passaic County, all of the members, and me, in recognizing the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

**HONORING LEO GOLD FOR HIS
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE COMMUNITY AND OUR
NATION**

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the entire Hirschorn family as they celebrate the life and accomplishments of their oldest living relative, Leo Gold. Today, the Hirschorn family, nearly 150 strong and from all corners of the world, have gathered to pay tribute to Leo not only for being a wonderful member of the family, but for his many contributions to his Nation and community.

Leo Gold has had a full life. He has served in our Nation's armed forces, married and raised a wonderful family of his own, worked as a stockbroker by trade, and has spent countless hours volunteering with a myriad of

service and community organizations. His life is the very reflection of what every community member should be.

Like so many of his generation, Leo served in the United States Army during World War II. A member of the Engineers' Corps, Leo was one of the hundreds of remarkable soldiers who landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day. He diligently served his country with dignity and integrity from 1943 until the end of the war. Today, I stand to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Leo Gold for his outstanding service to our country. It is veterans, like Leo, whose stories will never allow future generations to forget one of the free world's greatest victories.

Leo spent his professional career as a stockbroker and continues to own a seat on the American Stock Exchange. He has been happily married to his wife, Beatrice, for 63 years, raising two children, Helaine and Harold. Today, they continue to see their small family grow with three grandchildren, Heidi, Keith, and Sandra, as well as one great-grandchild, Maya. Throughout the years, it has been his family which has brought him such great joy and I find it a fitting tribute that his extended family has gathered to honor him today.

Veteran, successful businessman, and devoted husband, father, and grandfather—one would not find it hard to believe that Leo has also been an active member of his community, volunteering his time and efforts to make a difference in the lives of others. Before retiring to Florida, Leo lived in Great Neck, NY, where he was deeply involved with B'nai Brith and his synagogue Temple Israel. Now, as he and Bea enjoy their retirement years, they can be found volunteering for the Jewish Federation, among other organizations. In fact, Leo participated in the Big Brother Program just a few years ago, acting as a mentor and friend to children in need. Through his many philanthropic activities, Leo has quietly touched the lives of many—making a real difference in their lives.

Our communities and our country would not be the same without individuals like Leo Gold who so willingly dedicate themselves to serving and protecting others. It is an honor and a privilege for me to stand today to join his wife, Bea, children Helaine and Harold, grandchildren Heidi, Keith, and Sandra, and the entire Hirschorn family as they pay tribute to Leo Gold—an outstanding citizen and community leader. My heartfelt congratulations on this very special occasion—what an inspiration you are. Mazel Tov.

HONORING DAVID GAD-HARF

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a man who has selflessly devoted many years to his community and his culture. On July 13, civic leaders, family, and friends will join the Jewish Community Council to honor its executive director, Mr. David Gad-Harf, as he celebrates his retirement after 17 years.

A native of Erie, PA, David Gad-Harf graduated with honors from Harvard University,

and later received his Master's Degree from the University of North Carolina. Over the years, he worked as executive director of the Jewish community relations agency in St. Louis, as well as executive director for a national health care advocacy group. David also spent time on Capitol Hill as a legislative assistant in the Senate. He joined the Jewish Community Council in 1988, embodying its mission of being the public affairs voice of the Metro Detroit Jewish Community.

In addition to his work on behalf of the council, David was elected to the West Bloomfield, MI, School Board in 1999. He was re-elected in 2003, and served as its president from 2003 to 2004. He also sits on the board of New Detroit, Inc. David's peers have acknowledged his efforts on several occasions, most notably in 1999, when he received the Berman Award, presented to Detroit's most outstanding Jewish community professional.

Among David's great blessings is his wonderful family: his wife, Dr. Nancy Gad-Harf, and their son Joshua.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of traveling with David Gad-Harf to Israel, and I can personally attest to his commitment and dedication to making our country a better place in which to live. I applaud his many successes, and I ask the House of Representatives to please join me in congratulating him on his retirement, and wishing him the very best in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN C.
GOETCHIUS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the outstanding service of Colonel John C. Goetchius, who will retire this October after 29 years service while working for the United States Army and the Secretary of the Army Legislative Liaison. Colonel John Goetchius is a decorated and distinguished soldier.

Colonel Goetchius began his career as a United States Military Academy graduate, Class of 1976, and was immediately selected to lead our Nation's sons and daughters. During his career, he has endured the hardships of deployments and separation. As one of many testaments to his professionalism and accomplishments in defense of our Nation, in 2002 he was awarded the Defense Superior Service Award for his leadership as the Commander of the United States Military Group, El Salvador.

Most recently, Colonel Goetchius served the soldiers and civilians of the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison (OCLL) in the capacity of the Executive Officer to the Chief of Legislative Liaison. Colonel Goetchius's last assignment was a capstone of nearly 30 years of service to the United States Army. As the Executive Officer Colonel Goetchius was the principal assistant to the Chief of Legislative Liaison, responsible for the formulation, coordination and execution of policies governing the Army's relationship with Congress. He personally coordinated the efforts of the seven Division 100 person OCLL Organization with wide ranging responsibilities to manage all

U.S. Army Congressional contacts. Colonel Goetchius played an active role in communicating Army requirements, programs and policies to the U.S. Congress during a period of historic defense transformation and extremely high operational tempo.

Mr. Speaker, as Colonel John C. Goetchius prepares to retire from the Army, I know my colleagues will join me in commending him for his outstanding service to our Nation.

INTRODUCING H.R. 3141

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced H.R. 3141 to terminate general system preferences for imports from Brazil.

I take this action because of extreme action now threatened by the current government of Brazil. Last week, that government delivered a clear threat to seize patents held by the United States. That threat was extreme, unwarranted, and will meet with certain retaliation by the United States government. Given that our economy is far larger than Brazil's, action of this type will hurt Brazil far more than the U.S. and will cause unemployment and loss of income directly due to Brazil's reckless trade policy.

In specific, Brazil threatened Abbott Laboratories, Illinois' largest employer. The doctors and scientists at Abbott helped to invent the test for HIV and then invented the most powerful treatment for HIV. Scientists now are on their way to a cure for AIDS but all of this work will end if we let extreme policies seize the patents of scientists that represent the only hope for a cure.

In Brazil, anti-HIV drugs already sell for only half the price of the same drugs in the U.S. In my judgment, this proposed action to seize U.S. patents is only a subterfuge to not only produce the drug in Brazil but also to export it to other countries on the black market—all in direct violation of Brazil's solemn obligations to the WTO.

The bill I introduced today will cancel \$2 billion in Brazilian exports. If Brazil takes this action, further actions will follow to the detriment of Brazil.

Mr. Speaker, I have reviewed this matter with the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and Speaker HASTERT. They share my concerns and would strongly urge Brazil to reconsider extreme threats that will—in the long run—hurt Brazil far more than the U.S.

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH
THE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, the American people proudly stand in solidarity with the people of Great Britain in the wake of last Thursday's murderous attacks in the city of London.

It is tragic whenever anyone, anywhere is brutally and senselessly murdered. The car-

nage and bloodshed in London last week, however, were particularly poignant and moving to Americans because we have had no more resolute ally or steadfast friend in the war against terrorism than the British people and their leader, Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Prime Minister Blair has been there from the start, visiting Ground Zero just days after the tragic attacks of September 11, 2001 and then sitting in the gallery of the House of Representatives when President Bush addressed a joint session of Congress on September 20, 2001. That was America's darkest hour and Tony Blair stood by us. For that and more America will always be in his debt.

Today's world is brutal and treacherous. We are engaged in a struggle which could well determine our survival as a civilization. British troops fight beside American troops in every theatre of that struggle and British police, law enforcement and intelligence agencies work in full concert with their American counterparts.

Just as Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill stood as one to lead the world through the ravages of Nazism and fascism, George Bush and Tony Blair stand shoulder to shoulder in the war against terrorism. And just as the British people mourned with us on September 11, we assure them that our thoughts and prayers go out to all those good people in London who were murdered as well as those who were injured and all of their families. They will always be remembered.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS.
HARRY AND HILDA EISEN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor an extraordinary couple that survived one of history's darkest periods to live a vibrant and successful life together. Their tremendous life story is filled with incredible inspiration and hope. In a fitting celebration of their life together, Harry and Hilda Eisen will mark their 60th anniversary by renewing their wedding vows on July 10, 2005.

Harry and Hilda were both born in 1917 in the small Polish village of Ibcza. When Poland was invaded by German Nazis during World War II, their lives became a struggle for survival.

Harry served in the Polish Calvary and eventually became interned in the Auschwitz Concentration Camp. As a forced laborer, Harry worked in the coal mines and other grueling jobs during the 5 years he spent at Auschwitz, before escaping the forced death march in the winter of 1945. Meanwhile, Hilda escaped the Lodz Ghetto internment camp and joined a group of Jewish partisan fighters that fought back against the Nazis.

Following Poland's liberation, Harry and Hilda met up back in Ibcza and in July of 1945 they were married. They subsequently immigrated to America in 1948.

In America, Harry used the money he earned as a sausage-maker to start up a modest chicken business in Arcadia, California. As his business and urban encroachment grew, Harry needed to find another location for his chicken enterprise and settled in Norco, California. As time went by, the once small chicken business, now named Norco Ranch, Inc.,

continued to grow as a producer and distributor of shell eggs and other egg products in the Southern California marketplace and beyond.

Eventually, Norco Ranch successfully became one of the largest suppliers to the retail food chains in Southern California, employing nearly 500 people throughout the Inland Empire. Additionally, the business that once started with 100 chickens grew to have 8 million chickens producing egg products.

In 2000, Harry sold Norco Ranch so that he could focus his energies on his philanthropic interests. Harry is a founder of the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. and was President of the Lodzer Organization, which is a non-profit philanthropic association of Holocaust Survivors.

Having lost their original marriage certificate after the war, Harry and Hilda decided to renew their wedding vows to commemorate their 60th anniversary. Their grandson Michael Rubinstein, who will shortly be ordained as a rabbi, will perform the ceremony and provide them with a new marriage certificate. They will also be joined by their four children, Ruth, Mary, Howard and Frances.

I want to congratulate Harry and Hilda on this wonderful occasion and end by sharing with you the sentimental words that accompanied the ceremony announcement: "Each believing the other to be a giver of love, a sharer of sorrow, a bearer of joy and a reason for life, they decided to renew their wedding vows."

EXPRESSING THE GRAVE DIS-
APPROVAL OF THE HOUSE RE-
GARDING MAJORITY OPINION OF
SUPREME COURT IN KELO V.
CITY OF NEW LONDON

SPEECH OF

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I voice my opposition to the Supreme Court's recent decision granting local governments the power to seize private property for economic development. The Constitution protects an individual's right to own a home free of government intervention, and ensures just compensation for any property taken in the name of the greater public good, such as vitally necessary roads or water projects. The Court erred in its determination that private development interests constitute a legitimate public good. Private interests should not justify the bull-doing of homes in a working-class neighborhood. This divided decision, *Kelo v. New London*, may represent an open invitation for abuse by local governments and private developers at the expense of hardworking Americans who have a right to their property. While I oppose the Supreme Court's decision, I also believe in the separation of powers and do not believe it is appropriate for Congress to seek to punish the Court for its decision. It is my hope that the Supreme Court has another opportunity to correct this bad decision, and provide greater protections for homeowners.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALAMO SCOUTS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the fine accomplishments and storied history of the Alamo Scouts. The Alamo Scouts were the forerunners of the Army Special Forces "Green Berets." Without their determined efforts, the United States Army's path to victory in the Pacific would have been much harder.

I mention the Alamo Scouts today not only because they were the soldiers who had the skill and tenacity to accomplish the most top secret missions of World War II, but because as the years go their numbers are dwindling. I feel that it is important that all here today recognize the accomplishments of The Alamo Scouts and that we all pay tribute to them before they are lost to us forever.

The Alamo Scouts' role in history has remained obscure for many years, though their role in defeating the Japanese was crucial. Their training was rigorous and their missions were top secret. Of the thousands of soldiers who the military selected, only 138 men completed their training and became Alamo Scouts. Men like Robert L. Shirkey, Zeke McConnell, and Conrad Vineyard completed their training and went on to participate in missions that saved the war. It was an Alamo Scout, Galen C. Kittleston, who discovered the Cabanatuan prison camp that led to the release of hundreds of prisoners of war who would have surely died otherwise. It was an Alamo Scout, Robert Shirkey, who discovered that General Tomoyuki Yamashita, The Tiger of Malaya, had returned to Northern Luzon. This gave General MacArthur the information he needed to recapture the Philippines.

Most remarkable, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that despite the Alamo Scouts' daring and dangerous missions and despite the weeks and months spent behind enemy lines, not one Alamo Scout was ever killed in action. Even though they had the ability to defy death on the field of combat, many Alamo Scouts are no longer with us. Of the 138 original Alamo Scouts, only about 20 are still with us today.

Mr. Speaker, I know that you, along with the other members of Congress, will join me in honoring the Alamo Scouts and recognizing their invaluable contribution to America's success in World War II.

H.J. RES. 10, FLAG DESECRATION
RESOLUTION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I believe burning the flag is an offensive and disrespectful act. However, I oppose H.J. Res. 10, a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

Rather, I rise in support of the amendment offered in the form of a substitute, H. Amdt.

337, which would ensure that the First Amendment right to free speech is protected and that any statute enacted by Congress attempting to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag would remain consistent with the First Amendment.

I have confidence my colleagues on both sides of the aisle can agree that the liberty and freedom guaranteed by our Constitution, and symbolized by our grand old flag, is our Nation's greatest strength. Everyday, the freedoms that surround us in our homes, schools and places of work here in this chamber, are a constant reminder of what our flag means, and what has been sacrificed to ensure its lasting stability and continuity in our Nation. Every day Congress is in session, we pledge allegiance to this flag, "and to the republic for which it stands."

The willful destruction of our Nation's flag is, indeed, deeply offensive. The flag is a symbol of our national unity and a source of national pride, and our flag deserves to be treated with respect at all times. Yet, despite my love for my Nation and the flag, and my deep appreciation for the men and women who yesterday and today fight and live their lives defending our Nation, I cannot support this resolution.

We must take heed of the constitutional parameters that will be reduced as a result of this amendment. One of our most cherished liberties is our freedom of expression. Every individual in America is truly free to express his or her opinions, without threat of hindrance or persecution. From time to time we undoubtedly may disagree with another's opinion. However, this does not mean that their views should be constricted by the Constitution. If we place any limits on this freedom, we are opening the possibility that further limitation can be placed on our freedom of expression at a later time. This resolution, H.J. Res. 10, will indeed serve to reduce that freedom which is so crucial and essential to the maintenance of a strong, vibrant democracy.

IN SUPPORT OF H. RES. 256, IN RE-
MEMBRANCE OF THE BRAVE
SERVICEMEN WHO PERISHED IN
THE APRIL 24, 1980, RESCUE AT-
TEMPT OF AMERICAN HOSTAGES
IN IRAN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the lives and endeavors of eight brave soldiers who perished in the April 24, 1980 rescue attempt of American hostages in Iran. Their courageous, and ultimately fatal, effort was an extraordinary example of bravery and sacrifice. They risked their lives for the sake of the freedom of others. It is important that we remember them and commemorate their effort, not only for the sake of their memory, but for ours as well. These American heroes provide us all with examples of sacrifice and commitment to country, with models of bravery and strength whose attitudes we may attempt to emulate.

On November 4, 1979, a mob of Iranian students, calling themselves Imam's Disciples, seized the United States embassy in Tehran. Out of 90 embassy employees, 66 were taken

captive as hostages. By mid-November, 14 of the hostages—the women and African-Americans—had been released, but 52 remained.

President Jimmy Carter initially attempted to diffuse the situation through diplomatic and economic means. He froze Iranian assets, ceased oil imports from Iran, and expelled numerous Iranians from the United States. Unfortunately, these measures proved unsuccessful, and when the Iranian government issued a set of demands for the release of the hostages, President Carter approved the plan for a secret rescue mission called Operation Eagle Claw. In his words, "I ordered this rescue mission prepared in order to safeguard American lives and protect America's national interests, and to reduce the tensions in the world that have been caused among many nations as this crisis has continued."

On April 24, 1980, six C-130 transport planes set off to rendezvous with a group of nine U.S. military helicopters at a remote desert location, southeast of Tehran. Each vessel carried American soldiers ready to do whatever it took to rescue their fellow Americans.

Unfortunately, the rescue was not meant to be. Two helicopters broke down and one was damaged upon landing at the rendezvous point, and the mission was forced to abort. As if the hostages not being saved on that night was not disappointing enough, the real tragedy followed immediately thereafter. One of the helicopters clipped a C-130 transport as it took off. Tragically, the helicopter crashed, killing eight United States servicemen and injuring four others.

Mr. Speaker, these servicemen embarked upon their mission with one objective: to leave no man behind. It is imperative that today we do the same. We must honor the fallen soldiers and their memory. We must learn from their bravery and their determination. We must preserve the memory of each and every one of the courageous men who lost their lives in this valiant effort. In short, Mr. Speaker, we must never forget the sacrifice they made for their fellow soldiers. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

COMCAST LEADERS AND ACHIEVERS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three students in the Third District of Kansas who are being honored for their community service, leadership skills, positive attitudes and academic achievement. On August 10, 2005, the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program will award these students with grants to aid their pursuit of higher education. These students were nominated for this scholarship by the principals of their respective high schools, and they have distinguished themselves, their schools, and their community by being selected from a nationwide field of nominees. It is my honor to recognize each student, their school, and their hometown by listing them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Samantha Brown, Olathe Northwest High School, Olathe, KS.

Adam Doll, Olathe South High School, Olathe, KS.

Lorie Wadell, Olathe North High School, Olathe, KS.

COMMENDING DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS CHIEF JUDGE ANNICE WAGNER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, because of my personal admiration and friendship, I am particularly pleased to rise today to introduce a resolution that gives me personal pleasure even beyond the pleasure I would normally have in commemorating the service of District of Columbia Court of Appeals Chief Judge Annice Wagner. Judge Wagner's distinguished service for almost 30 years to the courts and to the people of the District of Columbia is documented in this resolution, also introduced in the Senate by Governmental Affairs Chair, SUSAN COLLINS. I am pleased to ask the House as well to express its gratitude to Chief Judge Wagner.

Judge Wagner was first nominated as an Associate Judge by President Jimmy Carter in 1977, re-nominated by President George H.W. Bush in 1990, and appointed Chief Judge in 1994 by President Bill Clinton. Under Judge Wagner's leadership, the Court has benefited in many ways while growing in respect by the profession, the bar and the Congress. Recently, along with other officials, I helped Judge Wagner break ground on the renovation of the historic Old District of Columbia Courthouse (Old City Hall), a project she has long championed as the new home of our highest court, which Chief Judge Wagner has so successfully led. The Chief Judge led the court through a historic transition after the federal government for the first time assumed financial responsibility for the D.C. courts. Although the President always has appointed the judges of the D.C. courts, the District of Columbia alone was responsible for the costs until passage of the District of Columbia Revitalization Act of 1997. Joining the financial responsibility with the appointing power helped the District emerge from its worst financial crisis in a century. However, the transition required changes in many details of operations, and the leadership of Chief Judge Wagner was critical to the success of this important transition.

When Judge Wagner was Annice Robinson and I was Eleanor Holmes, we were close friends and classmates at Dunbar High School. Annice was known then for her top academic achievements, her leadership skills, and her ability to bring people together. No one who knew Annice Robinson would be surprised that she would become Chief Judge of the highest court in her hometown or that she would leave her signature on the Court and on our city.

We are fortunate indeed that Chief Judge Wagner will assume senior status enabling the courts to continue to tap her years of experience and dedication. The Bar of the city, our elected officials, and our residents have been the direct beneficiaries of Judge Wagner's extraordinary service. Because of the role of the federal government in our local government,

Congress shares in the pride and gratitude of the city and the profession for Chief Judge Wagner's service. I ask the House to join me in endorsing this resolution of appreciation and commendation for the service of Chief Judge Annice Wagner.

SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce H.R. 3200 the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Enhancement Act of 2005. Honorable SHELLEY BERKLEY, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, joins me as an original cosponsor of the bill.

H.R. 3200 would amend and make permanent certain provisions of Public Law 109-13, the War Supplemental, as they pertain to the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) programs, which expire on September 30, 2005.

Specifically, this bill would make permanent the maximum increases in coverage for both Servicemembers' and Veterans' Group Life Insurance from \$250,000 to \$400,000, and make permanent the increments of SGLI coverage a servicemember may elect from \$10,000 to \$50,000. It would also require the military service Secretary concerned to notify a servicemember's spouse or an unmarried servicemember's next-of-kin, in writing, if the servicemember declines coverage or chooses an amount of coverage less than the maximum, as well as ensure that a servicemember's spouse be notified if the servicemember designates someone other than the spouse or child as the policy beneficiary. Finally, the bill would amend the new Traumatic Injury Protection program, established in Public Law 109-13, to allow a servicemember to opt out of the program.

Mr. Speaker, Congress recognized the need to enhance VA insurance benefits provided to our servicemen and women and did so in the Supplemental. This bill builds on the provisions enacted in Public Law 109-13 and ensures that servicemembers are provided with adequate insurance options to protect their families and loved ones.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO NORTH MIAMI AVENUE CHURCH OF GOD

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, I join the North Miami Avenue Church of God and its members in giving thanks to Almighty God on the wonderful occasion of the rededication of their expanded sanctuary.

The church had its beginning at a prayer meeting in November 1977 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hitchman. The church obviously

filled a spiritual need in many people because, after only two months, the interest and support of additional congregants led the group to rent the church hall of the First Baptist Church of Carol City. By the end of the first month at First Baptist there were approximately 50 people attending each Sunday. The official opening and dedication of Bahman Avenue Church of God was held on Sunday, February 4, 1979.

In November of 1994, the Florida State Overseer, Rev. Larry J. Timmerman, appointed Rev. Lawford A. Smith as pastor of the North Miami Avenue Church of God. Reverend Smith led the church in several new directions. Through a series of prayer meetings, worship services, neighborhood visitations, and the preaching of God's word, Reverend Smith continues to lead the church to new heights.

Early in 2005, now Bishop Smith, became concerned with the deteriorating condition of the main sanctuary and its surroundings. His concerns prompted him to propose a renovation project to the church. His vision was shared by a faithful group of people who were determined to see the work done.

Since April 4th, the membership has experienced the discomfort of dusty chairs, no air-conditioning, limited lighting, and the like. Now that the project has been completed, members are united in saying that it was well worth it. We are humbled to see what God can accomplish through the good works of people of willing heart and mind.

I want to extend my congratulations and best wishes to Bishop Smith and his congregation on this joyous occasion. May this new sanctuary help inspire those who gather together in His name.

HENRY LAMB EXPOSES THE DANGERS OF CODEX

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to read "Your dietary supplements: Under attack again" by Henry Lamb, which I am inserting into the RECORD. Mr. Lamb explains the threat to American consumers of dietary supplements and American sovereignty by the Codex Alimentarius commission, commonly referred to simply as Codex. The United Nations created Codex to establish international standards for foods and medicines. Just last week, representatives of the United States government agree to a final version of Codex's standards on dietary supplements which, if implemented in the United States, could drastically reduce Americans' ability to obtain the supplements of their choice. Members of the American bureaucracy may be hope to achieve via international fiat what they cannot achieve through the domestic law-making process—the power to restrict consumers' access to dietary supplements. American bureaucrats may gain this power if the World Trade Organization, which considers Codex "guidelines" the standard by which all other regulations are judged, decides that our failure to "harmonize" our regulations of dietary sup-

plements to meet Codex's "recommendations" violates international trading standards! This could occur despite the fact that American consumers do not want to be subjected to the restrictive regulations common in other parts of the world, such as the European Union.

This article is typical of Henry Lamb's work. For almost twenty years, beginning at an age when most Americans are contemplating retirement, Mr. Lamb has worked to expose and stop threats to American liberty, sovereignty, and prosperity. Mr. Lamb became involved in the battle for liberty when, as the CEO of a Tennessee construction company, he founded a state association of contractors to work against excessive regulations. In 1988, Henry Lamb founded the Environmental Conservation Organization to defend true environmentalism, which is rooted in the truth that there is no better steward of the environment than a private property owner, from those who used the environment as a cover for their radical statist agendas. Since 1992, Mr. Lamb and ECO have focused on the threat to economic liberty and self-government posed by the radical global environmental agenda.

Henry Lamb works to further the cause of liberty by giving speeches around the country, editing an on-line magazine, making numerous television and radio appearances, and writing a weekly column to inform his fellow Americans of the latest scheme to undermine their freedoms. Mr. Lamb is the model of a citizen-activist, and all who wish to become involved in the battle for freedom can learn from his example. In conclusion, I once again urge my colleagues to read Mr. Lamb's article to learn about the need to protect American consumers from Codex, and I thank Mr. Lamb for his tireless devotion to the cause of freedom.

[From the WorldNetDaily, June 11, 2005]

YOUR DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS: UNDER ATTACK AGAIN

(By Henry Lamb)

The Codex Alimentarius Commission sounds like one of those shadowy, sinister organizations conjured up by one-world-government nuts to scare people.

Truth: It is!

The Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization created this commission in the early 1960s to set standards for food safety and to "harmonize" the laws of member nations. The commission was endorsed by U.N. Resolution 39/248, which says:

"When formulating national policies and plans with regard to food, governments should take into account the need of all consumers for food security and should support and, as far as possible, adopt standards from the . . . Codex Alimentarius. . . ."

The Codex Alimentarius Commission consists of delegates from 163 member nations representing 97 percent of the world's population. It meets every two years, either in Rome or Geneva. Between meetings, the commission is governed by an executive committee that directs the activities of its many committees.

Of immediate concern is the ongoing effort to bring dietary supplements in America under the control of standards set by this commission. Dietary supplements generate a \$17 billion industry in the United States, which affects more than 150 million consumers, according to Congressional findings (H.R. 2485). Proposed procedures and stand-

ards could virtually destroy this market and deprive millions of Americans of the supplements they want to use.

The European Union Directive on Dietary Supplements², which becomes law in August, severely restricts the types and quantities of supplements that may be legally sold. Most forms of vitamins C and E, for example, are not available, or are available only in extremely small doses. If current plans proceed on course, American consumers are in for a shock.

How can this little-known international commission control what consumers buy in the United States?

An even less-known agency, deep within the bowels of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is responsible for U.S. participation in the Codex Commission and designates delegates to each of the commission's committees. Barbara O. Schneeman is the delegate to the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Food for Special Dietary Uses.

The effort to regulate dietary supplements has been under way for more than a decade. In 1994, Congress adopted the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act, which kept supplements beyond the reach of the drug police. In the past, Codex recommendations have been non-binding. Now, however, the Codex Alimentarius Commission is teaming up with the World Trade Organization to bring international enforcement to the dietary-supplement battle.

Ironically, it was primarily the U.S. that brought the WTO into existence in 1994, as the successor to GATT, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The WTO agreement specifically requires that the member nations—including the U.S.—conform its laws to meet the requirements of WTO decisions. Failure to conform results in stiff financial penalties. The Codex Commission and the European Union want the WTO to enforce Codex standards, which fly directly in the face of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act.

Pascal Lamy of France was just selected as director general of the WTO. Lamy served as a member of the French Socialist Party's steering committee and was chief of staff and representative of the European Commission for President Jacques Delors. Since 1995, he has served as a member of the Central Office of the Mouvement Européen (France) and as a member of the European Commission, responsible for trade.

The Codex Commission will be meeting in Rome July 4-9 to adopt the final rules on dietary supplement use. Dr. Carolyn Dean, president of Friends of Freedom International, will attend this meeting and return to the U.S. just in time to present her report to the Sixth Annual Freedom 21 Conference in Reno, July 14-16.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission's reach is much broader than dietary supplements. Its committees are also working on standards for pesticide residue, labeling of all kinds of foods, food additives and nutrients, veterinary medicine and drugs, as well as standards and methods for analysis. The function of this organization is to establish standards for all food worldwide and to enforce those standards through the power of the World Trade Organization.

Few people know that there is such a thing as the Codex Alimentarius Commission. It was created to promote food safety in international trade. It is on the brink of becoming an Orwellian bureaucracy—far worse than the worst fantasies of the one-world conspiracy theories.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission is neither fantasy nor theory; it is real.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES W. BAUER

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my former Chief of Staff for Texas Operations, Charles "Chuck" W. Bauer, who recently left my office. Chuck has been at my side for the last 11 years, starting with grassroots outreach, then on to handle legislative issues in my Washington, DC office before returning back to Texas to run my Dallas district office. Chuck has provided experienced judgment and advice to his fellow staff members and me for years, and his tireless work ethic will be greatly missed. I have come to appreciate and value his keen ability to lead by example and facilitate smooth flowing district operations for so many years.

Chuck graduated with a bachelor of science degree in political science in 1993 from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas and he received his masters of business administration from the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas earlier this year.

Chuck and his wonderful wife have two children, Abbey (3) and Hayden (6 months). I wish the entire Bauer family all the best for Chuck's next endeavor. I thank him for his great service to the people of the 32nd Congressional District of Texas.

Even though he will no longer be employed by the Congress, I will always be able to call him my dear friend. I am sure that the great Chuck Bauer will continue to impress those around him in his new line of work.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY WEST

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mary West, the 2005 recipient of the Disney Teacher award. Ms. West is a special needs high school teacher in Montrose, Colorado. In this capacity, she teaches students what they need to know to function in their community. Working with students as old as 21, she is often times the last teacher these students will have before they enter the adult world.

It is an honor and a privilege to have a teacher of Mary West's caliber in my district. Ms. West's dedication exemplifies the kind of steadfast determination and drive I grew up with in Colorado. As one of only 45 winners selected out of more than 50,000 nominees, Ms. West, and her school, will receive upwards of \$15,000 from the Walt Disney Company for use in maintaining this high quality of education at Montrose High School.

Education is about the future, about making our dreams for a better tomorrow a reality. Family values, a good education, these are the foundation on which that future ought to rest. What more could we possibly want for our children than the opportunity to see their dreams, large or small, come true. More than simply watching our children succeed though, this foundation allows us to take pride in knowing that their success is not due to luck, but rather to their own ability to make something of themselves.

We therefore have a responsibility to ensure our children enter that future with the best

education possible. Teachers, like Mary West, are putting these seemingly incredible dreams within reach. So, it is my hope that you will join with me in congratulating Ms. West on her accomplishments. With the help of Ms. West and other dedicated teachers throughout Colorado, I feel confident that today's youth will be prepared to accept the challenges and the possibilities of tomorrow.

TRIBUTE TO LINDA GRAHAM
WARD

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Linda Graham Ward, who retired on June 17, 2005 after thirty three years as a teacher in the Ocean View School District of Huntington Beach, California.

Linda G. Ward is a fantastic teacher who truly cares for her students. She has dedicated her 33 years of teaching to improving the quality of life of her students by teaching them Fitness for Life. Her greatest career achievements include not only saving the lives of several students, but teaching students how to live healthier lives through physical fitness. She inspired her students to go on to become Olympians, professional athletes, and teachers.

Linda was born and raised in El Centro, California. Her love of learning lead her to the University of Southern California where she earned her teaching credential in 1972. That fall she began her long career with the Ocean View School District teaching Physical Education and Science. Her campus assignments took her to the Rancho View School, the Vista View Middle School and the Spring View Middle School. She kept learning as well and earned a master's degree in kinesiology in 1973.

At each campus she served as a teacher, coach and mentor to her students. She coached volleyball, basketball, track, cross country, softball and soccer. She was the Mentor Teacher for Ocean View School District Physical Education Program and Developed and implemented the Ocean View School District's Physical Fitness Program for Grades 6, 7 and 8. Linda went above and beyond the normal teaching role to inspire her students to live a fit and healthy lifestyle. She created the Ocean View School District's Physical Fitness Awards Program based on Olympic Games model to recognize students' achievements and implemented the California Fitness Testing Program in Ocean View School District.

She made remarkable strides in improving the health of her students by becoming a CPR Instructor for the Ocean View School District and teaching students and employees how to save lives. Linda also served as Physical Education expert and advisor to Orange County Grand Jury investigation regarding childhood obesity. She also wrote, obtained and expended PEP grant funds in the amount of \$472,000 to implement the SPARK Program for physical fitness in her district. For her efforts Linda was named the Most Inspirational Teacher in the Ocean View School District, an award she certainly deserves.

For over three decades Linda G. Ward has been educating and motivating the young people of Southern California. She has indeed

made a positive difference in thousands of lives and earned my many thanks. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, on June 30, 2005, I was unavoidably detained during a vote on H. Res. 344. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 316.

HONORING U.S. ARMY CORPORAL
PHILLIP C. EDMUNDSON

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2005

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember U.S. Army CPL Phillip Charles Edmundson, of my hometown of Wilson, NC, for serving our country during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Corporal Edmundson made the ultimate sacrifice for our country when he died on June 1, 2005 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Bradley Fighting Vehicle during combat operations. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Carson, CO. He was just 22 years old.

Corporal Edmundson was the first person from my community to die in combat since Vietnam. While we are saddened at this great loss, we are so honored to claim Corporal Edmundson as the product of our community.

Corporal Edmundson had re-enlisted while in Iraq and was scheduled to be promoted to sergeant. During his funeral service, Corporal Edmundson was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart posthumously for his bravery and dedicated service.

It was my honor to represent U.S. Army CPL Phillip Charles Edmundson and to have a friendship with his parents, Robert Edmundson and Anne Edmundson. I extend my deepest sympathies to his family and friends. He will be deeply missed and his service was greatly appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD a poem by CPL Phillip Charles Edmundson.

A SOLDIER'S REFLECTIONS

I was that which others did not want to be.
I went where others feared to go
and did what others failed to do.

I asked nothing from those who gave nothing
and reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal loneliness . . .

Should I fail, I have seen the face of terror;
Felt the stinging cold of fear;
and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love.

I have cried, pained, and hoped . . .
but most of all, I have lived times others would say

were best forgotten. At least someday
I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was . . .

"A Soldier".

—CPL Phillip Charles Edmundson

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 12, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 13

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Endangered Species Act and incentives for private landowners.

SD-406

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Federal role regarding chemical facility security.

SD-562

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine habeas corpus proceedings and issues of actual innocence.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the financial stability of airlines.

SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine money laundering and terror financing issues in the Middle East.

SD-538

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To receive a briefing regarding the political and business implications of the prosecution and imprisonment of Russian Yukos Oil Chairman and CEO, Mikhail Khodorkovsky.

SD-192

JULY 14

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marcus C. Peacock, of Minnesota, to be Deputy Administrator, Susan P. Bodine, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, and Granta Y. Nakayama, of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, all of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine how prepared the National Capitol Region is for terrorism, focusing on how the National Capitol Region (NCR) is spending its homeland security grant funding, the organizational structures established to provide coordinated security, and if the NCR can be used as a model for security in other regions of the country.

SD-562

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine military justice and detention policy in the global war on terrorism.

SR-325

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Treasury's report to Congress entitled: "Assessment: The Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002".

SD-538

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness Subcommittee

To discuss preparing an effective and immediate public health response in the aftermath of a terrorism attack.

SD-430

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of R. Thomas Weimer, of Colorado, and Mark A. Limbaugh, of Idaho, each to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366

10:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of James Philip Terry, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Charles S. Ciccolella, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

SR-418

1:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-562

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Business meeting to consider H.R. 3010, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

Indian Affairs

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold joint hearings to examine S. 1057, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act.

SD-430

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the National Park Service's business strategy for operation and management of the national park system, including development and implementation of busi-

ness plans, use of business consultants, and incorporating business practices into day-to-day operations.

SD-366

Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 15

9:30 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the United States' relationship with the World Trade Organization, focusing on the role of the World Trade Organization and its impact on national sovereignty and economic security.

SD-562

JULY 18

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brian David Miller, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, General Services Administration, and Richard L. Skinner, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Edmund S. Hawley, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-562

JULY 19

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the effects of the U.S. nuclear testing program on the Marshall Islands.

SD-366

Appropriations

Transportation, Treasury, the Judiciary, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

Business meeting to consider H.R. 3058, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006.

SD-116

10:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

SD-226

JULY 20

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine legislation to resolve Cobell v. Norton. Room to be announced

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine biosecurity preparedness and efforts to address agroterrorism threats.

SR-328A

JULY 21

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 1003, to amend the Act of December 22, 1974.

SR-485

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine United Nations reform.

SD-419

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending VA legislation.

SR-418

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Business meeting to consider H.R. 3058, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, H.R. 2863, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, H.R. 2528, making appropriations for military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the De-

partment of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and proposed legislation making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006.

SD-106

JULY 27

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine IGRA exceptions and off-reservation gaming.

Room to be announced

JULY 28

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the implementation of the Native

American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

SR-485

SEPTEMBER 20

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.

345 CHOB

CANCELLATIONS

JULY 13

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219